

CHECK DECEPTION

A person who knowingly or intentionally issues or delivers a check, draft or order on a credit institution for the payment of or to acquire money or other property, knowing that it will not be paid or honored by the credit institution upon presentment in the usual course of business, commits check deception, a class A misdemeanor.



Jackson County Prosecutor Program Guidelines

Check eligibility:

- Check must be received in Jackson County
- Check must be presented to the bad check program coordinator within 120 days from the date on the check
- Positive identification (driver's license information, date of birth or social security number) identifiers need to be recorded at time of transaction.

- The Prosecutor's Office must be provided with the original check, processed by the bank, verification of certified mail and positive identification of the check writer.
- The check writer's driver's license number, social security number or date of birth must be provided before charges can be filed.
- Information and Probable Cause Affidavit must be completed for each bad check writer.

A check is ineligible if:

- Out of state check
- Stop payment check
- Post dated check
- It has not been processed by the bank
- The identity of the check writer is unknown
- Two-party check

Procedure of merchant/victim:

- The victim/merchant must send a letter of notice to the check writer by certified mail giving the check writer ten days in which to pay the amount owed. After the ten days has expired, the check may be presented to the Prosecutor's Office.

Procedure of Prosecutor:

- Prior to filing a criminal charge, a letter will be sent to the check writer in an attempt to collect the delinquent amount. The writer will have 30 days to respond.
- If no attempt has been made to make the check good then charges will be filed for check deception.
- Upon collection of the funds, this office will charge the check writer \$20 per check for a protest fee for the merchant/victim and a \$27.50 service fee which is deposited into the county general fund.



Jerry Meyers
Coordinator, Bad Check Program
Jackson County Prosecutor's Office
Courthouse
111 S. Main Street
Brownstown, IN 47220
812-358-6193
Office Hours are Monday through Friday
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Jackson County Prosecutor's Office
Bad Check Program
111 S. Main Street
Brownstown, IN 47220
812-358-6193



Jackson County Bad Check Program

Dear Merchant,

We have designed the Jackson County Bad Check Program to assist the honest individual, the merchant, and the professional in reducing losses due to criminal check deception. We ask that those who wish to participate follow all guidelines and procedures as set forth in this brochure.

Most importantly, you are asked to take the time to identify each check writer. Identity can be established by requesting to see a picture identification that contains the driver's license number, date of birth, or social security number and a signature. Signatures should be compared and all available identifiers recorded on the check along with the acceptor's initials. If the acceptor of the check cannot verify identification of the writer at the time the check was issued, identification cannot be verified for issuance of a warrant.

Our office reserves the right to refuse any checks that do not have sufficient information recorded. We welcome all individuals and entities to the program and hope that through cooperation and patience the Jackson County Bad Check Program will be beneficial to the community.



Sincerely,

Rick Poynter
Prosecuting Attorney
Jackson County, Indiana